

High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)

Description

HIMARS is a C-130 transportable, wheeled, indirect fire weapon system capable of firing rockets / missiles in the Multiple Launch Rocket System Family of Munitions (MFOM). HIMARS extends the range of available fire support from 30KM to 60KM and provides a 2,300% increase in the area coverage for engaged warfighting forces.



Operational Impact

HIMARS addresses an identified, critical warfighting deficiency in USMC fire support and provides 24 hour ground-based, responsive General Support/General Support Reinforcing/Reinforcing (GS/GSR/R) indirect fires, which accurately engage targets at long range with high volumes of lethal fire.

Program Status

HIMARS is post-Milestone A for the USMC. With Congressional funding of 17.3 million dollars in FY01, the Marine Corps purchased two prototype launchers, rockets, and parts. Additional procurements include resupply vehicles and trailers, training ammunition, and a training package to support evaluation and test. Significant upcoming initiatives include a Fleet Marine Force evaluation and developmental testing that will ensure that HIMARS addresses current/future fire support requirements.

Current plans are to field two battalions in the 14th Marines with 18 launchers each. The 14th Marines, who have the wartime mission of serving as the Force Artillery Headquarters in support of MEF-level operations are ideally suited to receive this component of the next generation of Marine Artillery.

Officials at Marine Corps Systems Command anticipate production to begin in FY06, with the initial operational capability achieved in FY07.

Procurement Profile	FY02	FY03
Quantity:	0	2

Developer/Manufacturer	Prime Contractor (HIMARS): Lockheed Martin, Dallas, TX
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Major Subcontractors
Steward & Stevenson, Sealy, TX
O’Gara-Hess, Cincinnati, OH

Prime Contractor (Resupply Vehicles/Trailers)
Oshkosh Truck Corp, Oshkosh, WI